

(Amended) It is a characteristic of the present invention to provide a method of optically contacting together the glass and the plastic during the bonding process of forming the resultant optical composite.

(Amended) It is a characteristic of the present invention to provide a method of enhancing the kinetic reaction strength of a sealant using microwave radiation.

From the Abstract, please amend the specification to include, just before the last paragraph of the Detailed Description of the Invention:

(Amended) In another preferred embodiment, the core is made of glass and the polymer cladding is optically contacted on to the optic fiber using heat generated from microwave radiation absorbed by the optic fiber.

In the Claims:

Please withdraw claims 1-14 and 34 from consideration without prejudice. These non-elected claims are not under consideration in the present elected patent and I will pursue separate patents on these claims at a later date.

Please amend claims 15, 19 and 40 as follows:

15. (Amended) A method of making a glass and plastic composite comprising:

forming a glass having a center and a margin to a particular shape;

forming a plastic having a margin and a center to a shape essentially adapted to receive the shape of the glass; and

applying microwave radiation for a time effective to anneal [affix] the formed glass and the formed plastic together [whereby the shape of the formed glass and the shape of the formed plastic remain substantially unchanged].

19. (Amended) A method of making a glass and plastic composite comprising:

forming a glass having a center and a margin to a particular shape;

forming a plastic having a margin and a center to a shape essentially adapted to receive the shape of the glass; and

applying microwave radiation for a time effective to affix the formed glass and the formed plastic together [whereby the shape of the formed glass and the shape of the formed plastic remain substantially unchanged]; and

applying sealant only to the margin of the glass and the margin of the plastic, whereby the center of the glass and the center of the plastic are devoid of the sealant.

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